

AP ISW

DOCKET NO. US010217
CLIENT NO. PHIL06-10217

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Wang Ling
Serial No.: 09/841,665
Filed: April 24, 2001
For: WIRELESS ADDRESSABLE LIGHTING METHOD
AND APPARATUS
Group No.: 2635
Examiner: Vernal U. Brown

MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

The undersigned hereby certifies that the following documents:

1. Appellant's Reply Brief Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.193; and
2. Two (2) postcard receipts

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Kathleen Portis

Date:

March 10, 2006

William A. Munck
Reg. No. 39,308

P.O. Drawer 800889
Dallas, Texas 75380
Phone: (972) 628-3600
Fax: (972) 628-3616
E-mail: wmunck@davismunck.com



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APPELLANT'S REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.193

The Appellant files this Reply Brief Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.193 in response to the Examiner's
Answer, which was mailed on January 10, 2006.

Arguments in Response to the Examiner's Answer

In Section 10 of the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner acknowledges that *Huang* is not relied upon as teaching "accepting [a] user confirmation that acknowledges an association involving a lighting device in response to visual confirmation." Instead, the Examiner asserts that *Sinha* is relied upon as teaching "accepting [a] user confirmation that acknowledges an association involving each lighting device in response to visual confirmation by using the Illuminated LED to confirm the selection of a particular light source." The Examiner also asserts that the "LVM modules" of *Sinha* are connected to "lighting devices" and that *Sinha* teaches "the visual confirmation provided by the LED upon selection of the lighting device." (*Examiner's Answer, Page 14, Section 10*).

First, regarding Claim 1, the Examiner incorrectly identifies the functions associated with various LEDs in *Sinha*. An interactive display 30 in *Sinha* is coupled to the LVM modules. (*Figure 1C*). The interactive display 30 includes LED displays 32-34 and individual LEDs 40-44. (*Col. 7, Lines 38-41*). The LED display 32 is capable of displaying a number representing a particular LVM module. (*Col. 7, Lines 42-43*). The LEDs 40-44 identify different "internal programs" stored in a PROM 26, where each program allows a user to adjust certain parameters and store certain values. (*Col. 7, Lines 47-52*). The parameters and values may be presented in the LED display 34. (*Col. 7, Lines 52-57; Col. 8, Lines 6-9*).

Second, it is inadequate for the Examiner to assert that some device in *Sinha* includes LEDs capable of providing visual confirmation to a user. Claim 1 specifically recites that the "visual confirmation" is performed by each of "plural lighting devices." The Examiner asserts that the

“LVM modules” of *Sinha* are connected to “lighting devices” and that LEDs 40-44 provide a “visual confirmation.” However, the LEDs 40-44 of *Sinha* form part of the interactive display 30, so any visual confirmation provided by the LEDs 40-44 of *Sinha* would not be provided by the LVM modules or lighting devices of *Sinha*. In fact, nothing in the cited portions of *Sinha* indicate that the LVM modules or the lighting devices of *Sinha* are capable of performing a “visual confirmation.” As a result, the cited portions of *Sinha* fail to disclose, teach, or suggest a “visual confirmation” performed by each of “plural lighting devices” as recited in Claim 1.

Third, Claim 1 recites that the visual confirmation from the lighting devices is performed upon “selection of each of the plural lighting devices on [a] remote control.” *Sinha* simply recites that a selected LVM module is identified by the LED display 32 and that a selected “internal program” is identified using the LEDs 40-44. *Sinha* lacks any mention of an LVM module or lighting device that provides any type of visual confirmation in response to selection of that LVM module or lighting device on the interactive display 30. As a result, the cited portions of *Sinha* fail to disclose, teach, or suggest that a lighting device provides a “visual confirmation” upon “selection” of that lighting device on a “remote control.”

Fourth, Claim 1 recites that a “user confirmation” acknowledging an “association” involving a lighting device is accepted in response to the “visual confirmation.” The LED display 32 of *Sinha* simply identifies the number of a selected LVM module. *Sinha* lacks any mention of accepting a “user confirmation” acknowledging an “association” involving a lighting device in response to the LED display 32 presenting the number of a selected LVM module. Similarly, the LEDs 40-44 of

Sinha identify different internal programs. *Sinha* lacks any mention of accepting a “user confirmation” acknowledging an “association” involving a lighting device in response to the LEDs 40-44 identifying a selected internal program.

The Examiner has simply established that LEDs are used in the display 30 of *Sinha* (which is separate from any lighting or slave devices) to provide various information to a user. This fails to disclose, teach, or suggest a “visual confirmation” performed by each of “plural lighting devices” upon “selection of each of the plural lighting devices on [a] remote control” as recited in Claim 1. This also fails to disclose, teach, or suggest accepting a “user confirmation” acknowledging an “association” of each of plural lighting devices in response to the “visual confirmation” as recited in Claim 1.

For these reasons, the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness against Claim 1 (and its dependent claims).

Claim 5 recites a mode used to associate plural lighting devices with an apparatus “in response to a visual confirmation performed by each of the plural lighting devices upon selection of each of the plural lighting devices by [a] processor” in the apparatus. Claim 8 recites initialization and binding of slave lighting devices and a master device “in response to” a “visual confirmation” performed by each lighting device “upon selection of” each lighting device “on the master device.” Claim 10 recites communicating a “visual signal” at each of plural slave devices “upon selection of each of the slave devices on [a] master remote control” and accepting a “user confirmation” acknowledging that the slave device is to be associated in some way with the master remote control.

Claim 21 recites communicating a “visual signal” at each of a plurality of slave devices “upon selection of each of the slave devices on [a] master remote control” and communicating a “user indication” that each slave device is to be associated in some way with the master remote control.

For the reasons discussed above, *Sinha* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest these elements of Claims 5, 8, 10, and 21. As a result, the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness against Claims 5, 8, 10, and 21 (and their dependent claims).

Accordingly, the Appellant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections and full allowance of Claims 1, 2, and 4-21.

CONCLUSION


The Appellant has demonstrated that the present invention as claimed is clearly distinguishable over the prior art cited of record. Therefore, the Appellant respectfully requests the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences to reverse the final rejection of the Examiner and instruct the Examiner to issue a notice of allowance of all claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees (including any additional extension of time fees) or credit any overpayments to Davis Munck Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVIS MUNCK, P.C.

Date: March 10, 2006



William A. Munck
Registration No. 39,308

P.O. Drawer 800889
Dallas, Texas 75380
(972) 628-3600 (main number)
(972) 628-3616 (fax)
E-mail: wmunck@davismunck.com